[Lithuanian Constitution as of April 7, 1948]

642 Art. 14. The Lithuanian SSR consists of the districts of Alitus, Anikshchyai, Birzhai, Varena, Vilkaviskis, Vilnyus, Zarasai, Ionishkis, Kaishyadoris, Kaunas, Kedainyai, Kelmena, Klaipéda, Kretinga, Kupishkis, Kurshenai, Lazdiyai, Mazheikyai, Mariyampole, Pagégyai, Panevezhis, Pasvalis, Plunge, Prenai, Radvilishkis, Rasseinyai, Rokishkis, Taurage, Telshai, Trakai, Ukmerge, Utyana, Shakyai, Shvenchenis, Shilute, Shyaulyai, Yurbarkas; and of the cities of Vilnius, Kaunas, Klaipeda, Shyaulyai and Panevezhis which do not form part of districts.

Art. 15. The Lithuanian SSR reserves the right freely to secede from the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

Art. 16. The territory of the Lithuanian SSR may not be altered without its consent.

[646] Art. 16a. The Lithuanian SSR has its own Republican military formations.

[647] Art. 16b. The Lithuanian SSR has the right to enter into direct relations with foreign states and to conclude agreements and exchange diplomatic and consular representatives with them.

Art. 17. The laws of the USSR are binding within the territory of the Lithuanian SSR.

[644] Art. 18. Every citizen of the Lithuanian SSR is a citizen of the USSR. Citizens of all other Union Republics enjoy on the territory of the Lithuanian SSR equal rights with citizens of the Lithuanian SSR.

Art. 19. The jurisdiction of the Lithuanian SSR, as represented by its higher organs of state power and organs of state administration, embraces:

a) Adoption of the Constitution of the Lithuanian SSR and control over its observance;

b) Establishment of the administrative-territorial divisions of the Lithuanian SSR and of the boundaries of districts and volosts;

c) Legislation of the Lithuanian SSR;

d) Maintenance of public order and safeguarding the rights of citizens;

e) Approval of the national-economic plan of the Lithuanian SSR;

f) Approval of the state budget of the Lithuanian SSR and of the report on its fulfilment;

g) Determination of state and local taxes, imposts and non-tax revenues in conformity with the laws of the USSR, as well as direction of the fulfilment of local budgets;

h) Direction of insurance and savings;

i) Administration of the banks, industrial, agricultural and trading enterprises and organizations subordinate to the Republic, as well as direction of local industry;

j) Control and superintendence of the condition and administration of enterprises subordinate to the Union;

k) Establishment of the procedure governing the use of land, mineral wealth, forests and waters;

l) Direction of dwelling-houses and the municipal economy, dwelling house construction and the modernization of cities and other inhabited places;

m) Road Building; direction of local transport and communications;

[Lithuanian Constitution as of April 7, 1948]

693 Art. 87. The Procurator of the Lithuanian SSR is appointed by the Procurator-General of the USSR for a term of five years.

Art. 88. District and city procurators are appointed by the Procurator of the Lithuanian SSR subject to the approval of the Procurator-General of the USSR for a term of five years.

Art. 89. The organs of the Procurator's Office perform their functions independently of any local organs whatsoever, being subordinate solely to the Procurator-General of the USSR.

Chapter VIII. Fundamental Rights and Duties of Citizens

641 461 Art. 90. Citizens of the Lithuanian SSR have the right to work, that is, the right to guaranteed employment and payment for their work in accordance with its quantity and quality.

The right to work is ensured by the socialist organization of the national economy, the steady growth of the productive forces of Soviet society, the elimination of the possibility of economic crises and the abolition of unemployment.

Art. 91. The citizens of the Lithuanian SSR have the right to rest and leisure.

[466] The right to rest and leisure is ensured by the establishment of an eight-hour day for factory and office workers, the reduction of the working day to seven or six hours for arduous trades and to four hours in shops where conditions of work are particularly arduous, by the institution of annual vacations with full pay for factory and office workers, and by the provision of a wide network of sanatoria, rest homes and clubs for the accommodation of the working people.

[467] 641 Art. 92. Citizens of the Lithuanian SSR have the right to maintenance in old age and also in case of sickness or disability.

This right is ensured by the extensive development of social insurance of factory and office workers at state expense, free medical service for working people, and the provision of a wide network of health resorts for the use of the working people.

[471] Art. 93. Citizens of the Lithuanian SSR have the right to education.

This right is ensured by universal and compulsory elementary education; by free education up to and including the seventh grade; by a system of state stipends for students of higher educational establishments who excel in their studies; by instruction in schools being conducted in the native language, and by the organization in the factories, state farms and machine and tractor stations of free vocational, technical and agronomic training for the working people.

[512] Art. 94. Women in the Lithuanian SSR are accorded equal rights with men in all spheres of economic, government, cultural, political and other public activity.

The possibility of exercising these rights is ensured by women being accorded an equal right with men to work, payment for work, rest and leisure, social insurance and education, by state protection of the interests of mother and child, state aid to mothers of large families and unmarried mothers, maternity leave with full pay, and the provision of a wide network of maternity homes, nurseries and kindergartens.

[Lithuanian Constitution as of April 7, 1948]

● 641 Art. 95. Equality of rights of citizens of the Lithuanian SSR, irrespective of their nationality or race, in all spheres of economic, government, cultural, political and other public activity, is an indefeasible law.

Any direct or indirect restriction of the rights of, or, conversely, the establishment of any direct or indirect privileges for, citizens on account of their race or nationality, as well as any advocacy of racial or national exclusiveness or hatred and contempt, is punishable by law.

[651] Art. 96. In order to ensure the citizens freedom of conscience, the church in the Lithuanian SSR is separated from the state, and the school from the church. Freedom of religious worship and freedom of anti-religious propaganda is recognised for all citizens.

Art. 97. In conformity with the interests of the working people, and in order to strengthen the socialist system, the citizens of the Lithuanian SSR are guaranteed by law:

a) freedom of speech;
b) freedom of press;
c) freedom of assembly, including the holding of mass meetings;
d) freedom of street processions and demonstrations.

These civil rights are ensured by placing at the disposal of the working people and their organizations printing presses, stocks of paper, public buildings, the streets, communications facilities and other material requisites for the exercise of these rights.

[575] Art. 98. In conformity with the interests of the working people, and in order to develop the organizational initiative and political activity of the masses of the people, citizens of the Lithuanian SSR are guaranteed the right to unite in public organizations: trade unions, cooperative societies, youth organizations, sport and defence organizations, cultural, technical and scientific societies; and the most active and politically-conscious citizens in the ranks of the working class and other sections of the working people unite in the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (Bolsheviks), which is the vanguard of the working people in their struggle to strengthen and develop the socialist system and is the leading core of all organizations of the working people, both public and state.

Art. 99. Citizens of the Lithuanian SSR are guaranteed inviolability of the person. No person may be placed under arrest except by decision of a court or with the sanction of a procurator.

Art. 100. The inviolability of the homes of citizens and privacy of correspondence are protected by law.

Art. 101. The Lithuanian SSR affords the right of asylum to foreign citizens persecuted for defending the interests of the working people, or for scientific activities, or for struggling for national liberation.

Art. 102. It is the duty of every citizen of the Lithuanian SSR to abide by the Constitution of the Lithuanian Soviet Socialist Republic, to observe the laws, to maintain labour discipline, honestly to perform public duties, and to respect the rules of socialist intercourse.

[Lithuanian Constitution as of April 7, 1948]

[641] [665] [421] Art. 103. It is the duty of every citizen of the Lithuanian SSR to safeguard and fortify public, socialist property as the sacred and inviolable foundation of the Soviet system, as the source of the wealth and might of the country, as the source of the prosperity and culture of all the working people.

Persons committing offences against public, socialist property are enemies of the people.

Art. 104. Universal military service is law.

Military service in the Armed Forces of the USSR is an honourable duty of the citizens of the Lithuanian SSR.

[667] Art. 105. To defend the country is the sacred duty of every citizen of the Lithuanian SSR. Treason to the motherland - violation of the oath of allegiance, desertion to the enemy, impairing the military power of the state, espionage - is punishable with all the severity of the law as the most heinous of crimes.

Chapter IX. The Electoral System

666 Art. 106. Members of all Soviets of Working People's Deputies - of the Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR and of the district, city, volost, small town and apilinki Soviets of Working People's Deputies - are chosen by the electors on the basis of universal, equal and direct suffrage by secret ballot.

Art. 107. Elections of deputies are universal: all citizens of the Lithuanian SSR who have reached the age of eighteen, irrespective of race or nationality, sex, religion, education, domicile, social origin, property status or past activities, have the right to vote in the election of deputies and to be elected, with the exception of insane persons and persons who have been convicted by a court of law and whose sentences include deprivation of electoral rights.

[644] Every citizen of the Lithuanian SSR who has reached the age of twenty-one is eligible for election to the Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR, irrespective of race, nationality, sex, religion, education, domicile, social origin, property status or past activities.

Art. 108. Elections of deputies are equal: each citizen has one vote; all citizens participate in elections on an equal footing.

[642] Art. 109. Women have the right to elect and be elected on equal terms with men.

Art. 110. Citizens serving in the Armed Forces of the USSR have the right to elect and be elected on equal terms with all other citizens.

Art. 111. Elections of deputies are direct: all Soviets of Working People's Deputies, from apilinki, volost and city Soviets of Working People's Deputies to the Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR are elected by the citizens by a direct vote.

Art. 112. Voting at elections of deputies is secret.

Art. 113. Candidates are nominated by election districts.

113, 642 RB5 Lithuania

[For comparisons of the Constitution of the Lithuania Soviet Socialist Republic of August 25, 1940 as amended through April 7, 1948 with other constitutions of the Soviet Union, see 70: American Russian Institute, R1 Soviet Union, category 116.]